

For Immediate Release

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Competitors Ready At Galway Downs International Horse Trials

Temecula, Calif., March 28, 2013 – Riders from six states, Canada, Great Britain, Puerto Rico, Germany, Mexico, Australia and France are ready to go for \$13,000 in prize money at this weekend's Galway Downs International Horse Trials. Sixteen horses will be aiming for the \$2,500 first prize in the featured CIC3*, and 48 more horses will be shooting for the top prizes in the CIC2* and the CIC1*.

Each of these horses will perform their dressage tests on Friday morning and then negotiate the demanding show jumping course in the afternoon. Then, on Saturday, they'll gallop over more than 30 jumps on the cross-country course designed by Ian Stark of Great Britain. Stark, a former Olympic medalist, has designed the Galway Downs course to great acclaim since 2007.

The CIC3* dressage begins at 10:50 a.m. and runs until 1:10 p.m. Their show jumping then runs from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. For the complete competition schedule, go to www.galwaydowns.com and click on the "Event Info/Schedule" tab at the top.

The Galway Downs event will continue on Sunday, with the more than 300 horses in the five national divisions competing on either the show jumping or cross-country courses.

Talented local musicians will be playing on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, headlined by Tony Suraci's "The Highwayman Show" on Saturday night and climaxed by Teenage singing sensation Jillian Calkins on Sunday afternoon, following the conclusion of show jumping. The kids will also enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

During Saturday's cross-country phase, from noon to 4:00 p.m., Kenny Marquez will play his wide-ranging rock collection on one section of the course, while Low Volts, the one-man band of Tim Lowman, will play on another section. They'll be providing the musical entertainment at two of the three "oases" arranged around the course, each of which will offer local gourmet food and local wine and beer for fans to enjoy as they appreciate the athletic performances of the horses and riders galloping past.

Tacky Little Hat Shop will kick off the musical performances with their experimental folk/indie music on Friday, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sisters Annie Preston and Enya Preston formed Tacky Little Hat Shop in the summer of 2008, playing acoustic guitar, banjo, keyboard, and accordion.

For the complete musical line-up and to buy tickets visit the Galway Downs website (www.galwaydowns.com).

The CIC3* division of the Galway Downs International Horse Trials is one of 15 member events of the Adequan/USEA Gold Cup/PRO Tour Series for 2013. Riders in each of these events aim for top prize money and prizes while seeking to qualify for the series final at the American Eventing Championships, where the purse is \$40,000.

Equine Insurance of California and the PRO Tour are the Presenting Sponsors of the Galway Downs International Horse Trials.

The Gold Medal Sponsors of the Galway Downs International Horse Trials are: The *California Horsetrader*, MD Barnmaster, Professional's Choice and Sunsprite Warmbloods.

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Equestrian, Point Two Air Jackets, Riding's Publications Inc., Ride On Video, SmartPak, Triple Crown Nutrition and Voltaire Design.

General admission for the Galway Downs International Horse Trials is only \$12 per day in advance, \$15 at the gate, with children under 12 free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Patron's passes – which include seating in the ringside tent, lunch and a full selection of beverages – are also available for \$55 per day or \$150 for the weekend in advance. For advance reservations, go to www.galwaydowns.com.

For more information on the Galway Downs International Horse Trials, visit www.galwaydowns.com or call 951-303-0405. To learn more about eventing, visit the U.S. Eventing Association's website (www.useventing.com).